

Message Text

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DRAFTED BY M/MS:RGMAYS, JR.

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TRSY/ADMIN - MR. LACK (SUBS)

ARA/LA/MGT - MR. LINVILLE

EB/EX - MISS WILSON (INFO)

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY MEXICO

AMEMBASSY NASSAU

UNCLAS STATE 065662

E.O. 11652: NA

TAGS:ETRD, MX, BF

SUBJECT: OPRED - TREASURY REQUEST TO RELOCATE TWO CUSTOMS BUREAU AMERICAN POSITIONS TO MEXICO AND ESTABLISH ADDITIONAL FOREIGN NATIONAL POSITION

1. LETTER FROM TREASURY DEPARTMENT REQUESTS AUTHORITY TO RELOCATE TO MEXICO CITY TWO CUSTOMS BUREAU AMERICAN POSITIONS PREVIOUSLY APPROVED FOR NASSAU. LETTER ALSO REQUESTS APPROVAL TO ESTABLISH AN ADDITIONAL FOREIGN NATIONAL CLERICAL POSITION AT MEXICO CITY.

2. TEXT OF LETTER READS QUOTE:
THE RECENT PASSAGE OF THE FOREIGN TRADE BILL, COUPLED WITH AN EVER-INCREASING VOLUME OF IMPORTS FROM CENTRAL AND SOUTH AMERICA, HAVE PRODUCED A MONUMENTAL CASELOAD WHICH FAR EXCEEDS THE CAPABILITIES OF CUSTOMS' PRESENT STAFF OF TWO INVESTIGATIVE EMPLOYEES IN MEXICO CITY. ALTHOUGH IT HAS BEEN POSSIBLE TO PROVIDE TEMPORARY RELIEF BY SENDING
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EMPLOYEES FROM OTHER CUSTOMS OFFICES THERE ON TDY, THAT

SOLUTION IS NO LONGER ECONOMICALLY FEASIBLE.

THEREFORE I AM REQUESTING THAT YOU RECLASSIFY TWO OF THE CURRENTLY APPROVED BUT VACANT PRECLEARANCE POSITIONS IN NASSAU TO INVESTIGATIVE POSITIONS ASSIGNED TO MEXICO CITY.

THIS WILL RAISE CUSTOMS STAFF IN MEXICO TO FIVE AMERICAN NATIONALS. IN ADDITION, IN ORDER TO ADEQUATELY SUPPORT THE STAFF WITH CLERICAL ASSISTANCE, I AM REQUESTING THE APPROVAL OF ONE ADDITIONAL FSL CLERICAL POSITION. REGARDING THE REASSIGNMENT OF POSITIONS FROM NASSAU, HOWEVER, IT WILL BECOME NECESSARY TO REQUEST THEIR RESTORATION SOMETIME IN THE NEXT FISCAL YEAR AS SOON AS EXPECTED WORKLOAD AND FACILITIES MATERIALIZE. END QUOTE.

3. OPRED RECORDS INDICATE 26 CUSTOMS POSITIONS AUTHORIZED AT NASSAU WITH 10 OCCUPIED AS OF 12/31/74; THUS TRANSFER OF TWO POSITIONS WOULD LEAVE 24 AUTHORIZED THERE. TREASURY SPOKESMEN HAVE STATED INFORMALLY THAT TRANSFER OF TWO POSITIONS WILL NOT INTERFERE WITH STAFFING EXISTING VACANCIES INsofar AS RESOURCES AND CONSIDERATION OF COMPETING DEMANDS ALLOW.

4. ACTION REQUESTED. WOULD APPRECIATE COMMENTS BY ADDRESSEE COMS CONCERNING TREASURY PROPOSAL, INCLUDING IMPACT ON OPERATIONAL EFFECTIVENESS OF CUSTOMS BUREAU UNIT AND/OR ADMINISTRATIVE CAPACITY OF MISSION TO ADJUST TO PROPOSED CHANGES IN STAFFING. KISSINGER

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